

judicial execution since 1988, highlighted both the military's brutality and its complete disinterest in negotiations. The coup brought the previous power-sharing arrangement with the civilian leadership to an unceremonious end. Now the vast majority of the Myanmar people have expressed a clear desire not to return to the status quo ante.

Nineteen months after the coup, the military junta has been unable to consolidate its power. Wide swaths of Myanmar's territory are contested between the military and forces associated with the NUG or EAOs, and it can be stated that the coup has failed. In areas along the Thai border, EAOs like the KNU and the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) are working together, providing basic services to the population, and showing what a future Myanmar, in which different groups cooperate rather than fight amongst themselves, could look like if the country is able to shake off the tyranny of the military.

As Myanmar's future hangs in the balance, external pressure on the military and support for the resistance may well be the deciding factor in the course of the conflict. The international community can, and should, do more to help the Myanmar people to send the military to the barracks and establish a federal democracy. It should start with substantially increasing its efforts to address the worsening humanitarian crisis, intensifying its pressure on the illegal junta through coordinated sanctions and arms embargoes, and recognizing the NUG as the legitimate authority in Myanmar. The NUG, as well as aligned EAOs, should be provided with funding and capacity building programs on governance and federalism. But action should be taken urgently. As Khin Ohmar, Myanmar activist and Chair of Progressive Voice said during one of the IPI oral hearings, "time is not our side".

#### RECOGNIZING STATE REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT SANFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize and salute State Representative Scott Sanford, a steadfast leader who has faithfully served the constituents of Texas' House District 70 over the past decade.

A proud Texas native, Mr. Sanford earned his Bachelor and Masters degrees from Baylor University prior to beginning his career as a certified public accountant. In 1997, Scott heeded a new calling by joining the ministry at Cottonwood Creek Church in Allen, Texas, where he currently serves as the Executive Pastor.

In 2012, Sanford undertook a new mission of service after being elected to Texas House District 70, which encompasses the rapidly growing Collin County cities of McKinney, Melissa, Celina, Prosper, Anna, Princeton, and Weston.

During his time in the Texas Legislature, he has proudly held the positions of Texas GOP Caucus Policy Chair during the 86th and 87th Legislative Sessions and also served as the Chairman of the Texas Prayer Caucus. Notable past committee assignments include the

House Public Education Committee, Health & Human Services Committee, Urban Affairs Committee, Land & Resource Management Committee, Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Committee, and the Corrections Committee. Rep. Sanford also currently serves on the prestigious Ways & Means Committee, Insurance Committee, and the House Administration Committee.

His proudest legislative achievements include the Pastor Protection Act, the Bonton Farms Act, the Don't Pass the Trash Bill, and the Freedom to Worship Act. For his many efforts, he was recognized by Texas Values as a "Faith & Family Champion," by Texas CASA with the "Big Voices for Little Texans" Award, and by the Texas Conservative Coalition as a "Courageous Conservative."

Representative Sanford's deep commitment to his community and constituents is evidenced by his work as a member of the board for Smiles Charity and Collin County Meals on Wheels, as a member of the Rotary Club of McKinney and the McKinney Chamber of Commerce, and as a mentor to students in McKinney Independent School District through the REACH program.

Representative Sanford has truly fostered a tremendous legacy of servant leadership. Now as he prepares to begin a new season of life alongside his wife, Shelly, it is with gratitude that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing his many contributions throughout his career in public service while wishing him and his family all the best in this next chapter.

#### RECOGNIZING COLIN CARR

**HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today with mixed emotions as I recognize the incredible contributions made to my office, and this body, by a dedicated member of my staff. Mr. Colin Carr was one of the first to join my office in 2015 when I was a newly elected member of Congress. At that time, Colin came onboard as my first Legislative Correspondent, where he excelled. I quickly recognized not only his talents, critical thinking, and grasp of the issues, but also his keen interest and in-depth knowledge of legislative policy, especially in economics and the financial services realm. As a result, he was soon promoted to Legislative Assistant and then to Legislative Director.

Colin's deep interest in the financial services sector proved to be crucial in 2017 when I joined the House Financial Services Committee. As my legislative liaison on the Financial Services Committee, Colin not only helped me to navigate the complexity of issues, but he also inspired new legislative initiatives. Colin led the effort to pass several bills in the financial services sector, as well as those of specific importance to the people of Georgia's 11th Congressional District. Two of the bills Colin helped champion were eventually signed into law by the President, the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Boundary Act and the Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams (BUILD) Act. Colin's natural aptitude and thorough understanding of the vital aspects of our

financial systems are surpassed only by his vigilant commitment to his faith, his family, and our country. He is a wonderful role model for young Americans willing to work hard to be the best at what they do.

Colin is leaving the House of Representatives to take a job in the private sector. As Colin steps into the next part of his journey, he will be greatly missed as a leader on our team but will always remain a member of our office family. We will carry a sense of pride in knowing that he will undoubtedly build on the foundation established over his years of service in the House of Representatives. I am blessed to have had such a dedicated and motivated member of my team; and, while I am happy for the success that awaits him in the private sector, he will be greatly missed by me, my office, and many others in the House of Representatives.

I thank Colin for his service, and God speed.

#### STRENGTHENING VA CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7299, the Strengthening VA Cybersecurity Act of 2022, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

According to the Department of Defense, cyber criminals target victims in order to weaken U.S. supply chains, threaten national security, and endanger the American way of life.

Although cyberattacks can potentially harm all Americans, attacks against veterans are especially problematic because of the vast population of veterans and the amount of data that is maintained about their service and benefits.

In the United States, there are an estimated 18.5 million veterans.

Currently, there are 1.2 million active-duty military members and 778,000 reserve forces. More than half of active-duty personnel have family member dependents.

Because there are so many veterans—and future veterans—the data systems that manage their service records, salaries, health conditions, and benefits provided to them and their families must be maintained securely and insulated from risk of being exposed, corrupted, deleted, or held for ransom.

Just as veterans have served America, protecting our safety and freedoms, it is vital that we protect veterans when they complete their service, start a new chapter of their life, and depend on our government to protect their personal information and privacy.

The Department of Veterans Affairs stores important material such as social security numbers, health records, financial information, and more. It is the Department's responsibility to protect and preserve veterans' data for future use and needs that the veterans may have.

In 1973, a firestorm at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri

destroyed the records of veterans that served from 1912 to 1964. Almost 18 million records went up in flames. Up to 80 percent of veterans who discharged during this time had their records destroyed.

We learned from that conflagration, and since 1973, we have become increasingly reliant on technology, although that, too, creates exposure to potential vulnerabilities.

If cybersecurity is not protected appropriately, then millions of records could be at risk just like they were in 1973.

Strengthening information systems at Veterans Affairs will protect against cybersecurity threats, ransomware, insider threats, threats from foreign actors, phishing, and any other attacks that seek to cause harm.

Congress must require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems at the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that this fragile information is protected.

This bill should be extremely important to all of us because it is personal. Many of our colleagues in Congress are veterans. Many of our neighbors are veterans or have family and friends who are veterans. They are our constituents, our community leaders, and often, our heroes and heroines.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this critical bill that will safeguard the information of millions of veterans and their families.

#### HONORING WORLD TURKISH COFFEE DAY

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of World Turkish Coffee Day, recognizing a living world heritage of humanity listed on UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Admitted to UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list on December 5, 2013, Turkish coffee culture has a universal value that must be conserved and passed onto future generations. Symbolizing hospitality and peace for centuries, Turkish coffee is the world's first coffee brewing method. The coffee culture was introduced to Europe by Turks in the 17th century and later was spread to the Americas.

Led by the Turkish Coffee Lady Foundation (TCLF), Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), and American Turkish Association of Washington DC (ATA-DC), Turkish Americans throughout Virginia and across the country will recognize December 5th as the World Turkish Coffee Culture Day on December 5, 2022. From Alexandria to New York City, from Michigan to Cleveland, from Fort Lauderdale to Los Angeles, Turkish Americans contributing culturally, socially, and economically to their local communities will foster friendships between societies through cultural and social activities.

Please join me in thanking Turkish Americans for their community service and gastro diplomacy mission of bridging cultures through civic engagement in the U.S.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. CAROL SARGANIS

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today, I honor the life and memory of Ms. Carol Sarganis, a teacher, a role model for people with Muscular Dystrophy, and a champion for the inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace.

When she was diagnosed with Limb-Girdle Muscular Dystrophy as a young child, Carol's doctors told her parents that she would never accomplish anything in her life. However, her parents disagreed, and they instead encouraged her—and fought for her right—to receive a solid public-school education.

Carol was a successful student, and she defied the expectations of her counselors who thought she wouldn't be able to handle a rigorous academic environment. After graduating from East Providence High School, Carol attended Salve Regina University in Newport, RI to pursue her dreams of becoming a teacher.

By the time she earned her Bachelor's Degree in elementary education, the progressive nature of the disease had made her almost entirely dependent on a manual wheelchair. This came long before the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed into law, so she had to rely on others, such as her brother or nursing students, to carry her up multiple flights of stairs just to attend class.

In 1968, she graduated from Salve Regina and joined the Newport Public School System as a remedial reading specialist, where she taught until her retirement in 1996. Always seeking to redefine any limit, she went on to earn a Master's Degree from the University of Rhode Island while teaching fulltime. During her tenure as a teacher, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year. Eventually, Carol learned to drive using an adaptive vehicle to accommodate her disabilities. After retiring from teaching, Carol worked as an employment specialist and job coach with Project: Return to Work, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission of providing employment services and placement opportunities for Americans with disabilities, including veterans.

Carol was a role model, not just through her personal experience with overcoming barriers in the workplace, but through her relentlessly positive attitude. She believed life was a gift and refused to be defined by either her physical limitations or the biased perceptions of others. Instead of growing bitter about increasing limitations presented by the disease, she chose instead to be grateful for all of the blessings that she had. Near the end of her life, when she was almost entirely paralyzed, she was grateful for the staff of the nursing home who brought her outside to feel the sun on her face and helped her by writing cards she dictated for friends and loved ones. Always one to share her blessings, Carol would decorate the rooms of other residents with cards she had received to brighten up their living arrangements.

On October 25, 2022, Carol passed away at Rhode Island Hospital. Carol left behind her brother George Sarganis and his wife Claire McWilliams, her beloved niece Zoe Sarganis of Central Falls, and her beloved cousins

Elaine and Dick Bianco of Barrington, Rhode Island.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF TODD HAUGEN

**HON. PETE STAUBER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Todd Haugen's retirement after his 42-year long broadcasting career in Bemidji, Minnesota. Todd's last show will be November 18, 2022.

Todd has been a member of the Bemidji community since he attended Bemidji State University, where he later went on to be honored with the Outstanding Alumni Award.

For nearly the entirety of his 42-year career in Bemidji, Todd was on air with KBUN/KB101.

As the long-time host of the popular daily public affairs show Chatabout, Todd helped his station, KB 101, earn a record number of six National Association of Broadcasters Crystal Awards, a Crystal Heritage Award, and two NABEF Service to America Awards. He also a two-time National Association of Broadcasters Marconi award finalist for Small Market Personality of the Year.

During his time as a broadcaster, Todd did so much more than hosting shows and entertaining and informing his community. He hosted hundreds of community events, fundraisers, and participated as a host for Hubbard Bemidji's annual Radiothon to End Child Abuse that raised over \$1 million since it began in 1988.

After a successful career in broadcasting and serving his community, I wish Todd nothing but happiness in this new stage of life. I Hope he enjoys retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAF- FIC VICTIMS

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.

Every third Sunday in November, the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is a chance to remember the millions of lives lost or injured due to road crashes. On this day we also pay tribute to emergency responders and medical professionals who deal with the trauma of road death and injury daily.

According to the Association for Safe International Road Travel an estimated 1.35 million people around the world die in road crashes each year. This is a public health crisis that continues day in and day out in all countries of the world. Affecting primarily our most vulnerable communities and our young. Therefore, during the new Decade of Action 2021–2030 the World Day will have the important role of helping to achieve the 50 percent road casualty reduction target.

Madam Speaker, please join me today as we remember the victims of road traffic collisions and their families. Ultimately, we should